



**Economic and Social
Council**

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COMMITTEE ON ECONOMIC, SOCIAL
AND CULTURAL RIGHTS
Pre-sessional working group
2-6 December 2002

**IMPLEMENTATION OF THE INTERNATIONAL COVENANT ON
ECONOMIC, SOCIAL AND CULTURAL RIGHTS**

**List of issues to be taken up in connection with the consideration of
the initial report of LITHUANIA concerning the rights referred to
in articles 1-15 of the International Covenant on Economic, Social
and Cultural Rights (E/1990/5/Add.55)**

I. ISSUES RELATING TO THE GENERAL PROVISIONS OF THE COVENANT (arts. 1-5)

Article 2.2 - Non-discrimination

1. Please indicate what difficulties have been encountered in practice in connection with the constitutional provision (art. 29) that a person may not be granted any privileges on the basis of his or her sex?
2. Are there any plans to amend the preamble to the Law on Ethnic Minorities that guarantees equal rights in the State party only to its citizens rather than to all its residents?

II. ISSUES RELATING TO SPECIFIC RIGHTS RECOGNIZED IN THE COVENANT (arts. 6-15)

Article 6 - The right to work

3. Please provide the latest statistical data, on a comparative and disaggregated basis, of the unemployment rate in 2001-2002.
4. Please provide more detailed information on the programmes for the retraining of young university graduates with a view to reducing their unemployment rate.
5. Please provide statistical data on a comparative and disaggregated basis with regard to the unemployment of secondary school graduates and programmes adopted to improve their employment situation.
6. Please indicate whether there is any case law on the violation of articles 19 and 30 of the Law on Employment Contract, which prohibits discrimination and the termination of contracts on the basis of sex, race, nationality and religious beliefs.
7. Please indicate the initial results of the Employment programme for 2001-2004.
8. Please describe in more detail the phenomenon of “public works”, in which 6 per cent of schoolchildren from socially vulnerable families are engaged (paragraph 102 of the report).

Article 7 - The right to just and favourable conditions of work

9. Please indicate the results of the application of the new work enumeration system for civil servants adopted on 1 July 2001.
10. Please indicate the consequences of freezing the minimum monthly wage from January to May 2000 and in 2001.
11. What steps have been taken by the State party to ensure that the provisions of the labour inspection legislation are being implemented?

12. Please indicate whether the Equal Opportunities Ombudsman has been effective in ensuring that employers pay equal pay for work of equal value. Please give examples.

13. What measures, legislative or otherwise, have been adopted by the State party to implement the principle of equal pay for work of equal value for men and women in the private sector?

Article 8 - Trade union rights

14. Please indicate whether the draft law on amendments to the Law on Bargaining Agreements and Contracts, which provides for more favourable conditions for collective bargaining, has been adopted and implemented by the State party.

15. Please explain why the restrictions placed on the right to strike in the essential public services do not meet relevant ILO standards.

Article 9 - The right to social security

16. Please provide information, including comparative and disaggregated statistical data, on the number of unemployed who do not receive unemployment benefit.

17. What measures, legislative or otherwise, is the State party taking to ensure that socially disadvantaged families are not adversely affected by the new pension system based on compulsory insurance.

Article 10 - Protection of the family, mothers and children

18. What kind of social assistance is provided to non-citizen families raising children?

19. Please provide information on the public-awareness campaigns and on the measures, legislative or otherwise, adopted by the State party to deal with domestic violence against children.

20. Please indicate what measures, legislative or otherwise, have been taken by the State party to combat the problem of trafficking in women, sexual exploitation and pornography.

21. How is the monitoring of the situation of children in foreign adoptive families organized?

22. Please indicate whether the State party intends to amend article 118 of the Criminal Code in order to define specifically rape as sexual intercourse without consent.

23. What effective measures have been taken by the State party in connection with the growing number of missing persons, especially young women and girl children?

Article 11 - The right to an adequate standard of living

24. Please indicate what measures the State party has taken to combat the high level of poverty, especially among women living in rural areas, young people and the disadvantaged and marginalized groups.

25. Please indicate what measures have been taken by the State party to ensure that children get an adequate amount of iodized salt in their diet.

26. What effective measures have been taken by the State party to ensure that a worker earns a salary which is sufficient to provide the worker and his/her family with a decent standard of living?

27. What measures have been adopted by the State party to improve the deteriorating condition of housing and to build more social housing units, in line with the Committee's General Comment No. 4? Please provide disaggregated and comparative statistics on the number of the homeless and of forced evictions over the past five years, in conformity with the Committee's General Comment No. 7.

28. Please indicate what steps have been taken by the State party to regulate the manufacture and sale of food and drink products to ensure their quality and safety.

Article 12 - The right to physical and mental health

29. Please indicate what measures have been taken by the State party to reduce the growing suicide rate among the population.

30. What measures is the State party taking to combat and prevent the spread of HIV/AIDS and tuberculosis?

31. Please indicate what measures the State party has taken to ensure that children with disabilities living in rural areas have access to the same level of services and medicines as children in urban areas.

Articles 13 and 14 - The right to education

32. What measures has the State party taken to ensure the accessibility of education at all levels to children, especially in rural areas, and to address the disparity in primary, basic and secondary schools between rural and urban areas, as outlined in the Committee's General Comment No. 13?

33. What measures has the State party taken to reduce the high level of dropouts among schoolchildren, particularly among people with disabilities and the disadvantaged and marginalized groups?

Article 15 - The right to take part in cultural life and to enjoy the benefits of scientific progress and its applications

34. Please provide updated information about the measures, legislative or otherwise, taken by the State party to ensure that the various nationalities and ethnic groups in the State party preserve their cultural identity, language, education and culture.

35. What steps have been taken by the State party to ensure that the poorest sections of the population have access to cultural activities?
